

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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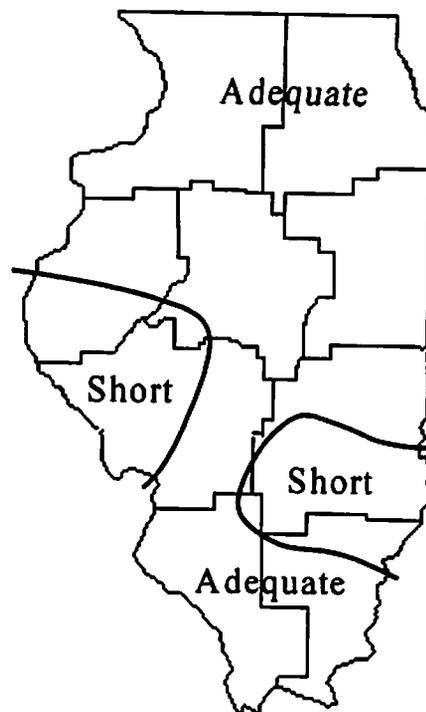
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Light rain across the state Monday delayed fieldwork only slightly with harvest back in full swing by Wednesday. Most farmers switched to corn harvest last week and the near ideal fall conditions allowed 31 percent of the corn crop to be brought in from the fields last week. This is a record corn harvest pace for this week since records began in 1975. The first killing frost occurred across most of northern Illinois last week with lighter frosts common in many areas of the state. The past few week's warm dry weather has greatly aided the maturing crops and last week's frost will only help the corn crop to continue drying down. Most reporters continue to express concern regarding yield loss in corn due to corn borer. With the favorable dry weather, though, farmers have been able to harvest earlier avoiding some field loss and still harvest a relatively dry crop. The state's winter wheat crop continues to be sown at a near record pace, and aided by last week's rainfall, emergence is at a record level of 45 percent as of October 19. Other activities last week included fall tillage, dry fertilizer application, machinery maintenance and anhydrous ammonia application.

Crop Progress

Crop Stage	: 1997	: 1996	: 5-Year Average

October 19			
CORN:			
Mature	98	93	97
Harvested	59	33	42
SOYBEANS:			
Shedding leaves	99	96	99
Harvested	89	56	78
WINTER WHEAT:			
Seeded	85	53	66
Emerged	45	20	27
SORGHUM:			
Mature	95	90	90
Harvested	52	17	36



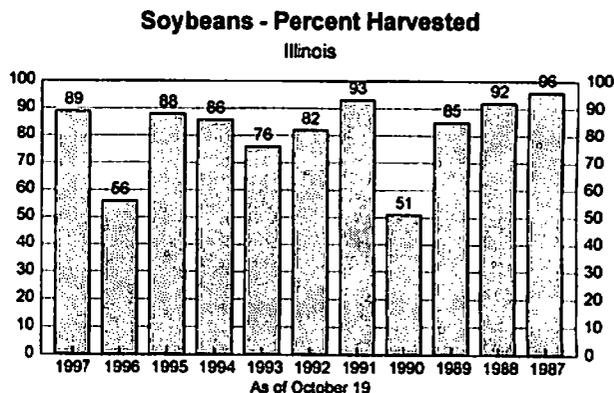
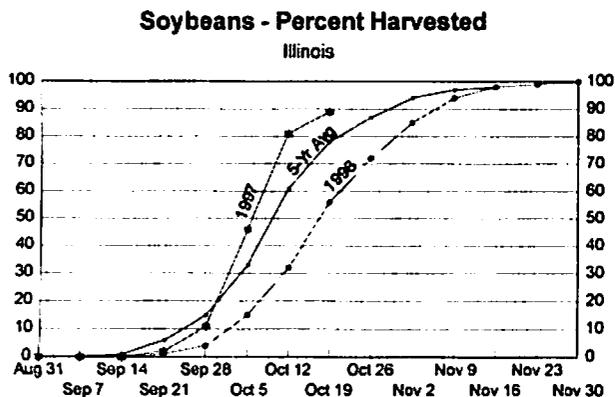
Topsoil Moisture
October 17

Crop Conditions

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	-	2	25	66	7
Pasture	4	16	43	35	2

October 17

The charts on this page and the next are available from the World Wide Web site noted on the front page. There are also additional charts at the site that are not shown here.



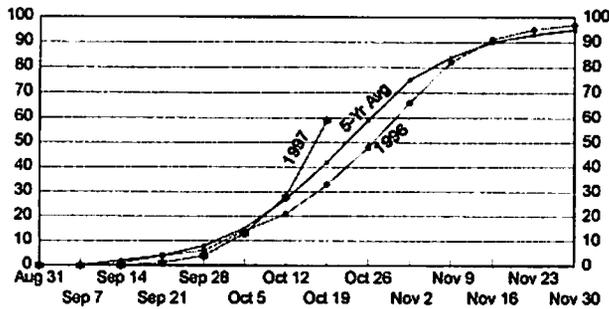
Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Topsoil Moisture

District	Days Suitable for Fieldwork	Topsoil Moisture			
		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	October 11 - 17			October 17	
Northwest	6.1	2	43	55	-
Northeast	6.0	-	44	56	-
West	6.6	20	31	49	-
Central	6.1	8	37	55	-
East	5.8	6	29	63	2
W Southwest	6.0	2	42	56	-
E Southeast	6.0	3	40	57	-
Southwest	5.3	2	36	62	-
Southeast	6.3	2	59	38	1
State	6.0	5	40	55	-

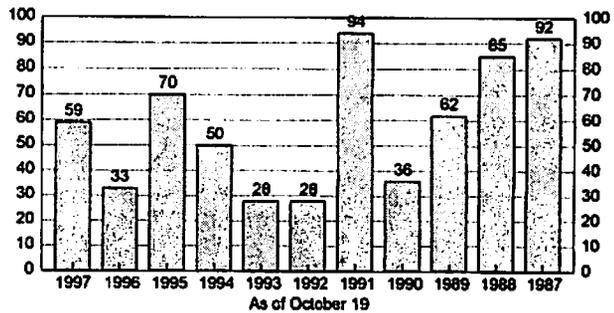
Crop Progress by District

District	Corn		Soybeans	
	Harvested		Harvested	
	October 19			
Northwest	40		90	
Northeast	17		88	
West	64		88	
Central	74		95	
East	72		99	
W Southwest	78		91	
E Southeast	60		88	
Southwest	77		78	
Southeast	57		66	
State	59		89	

Corn - Percent Harvested
Illinois



Corn - Percent Harvested
Illinois



Temperature and Precipitation

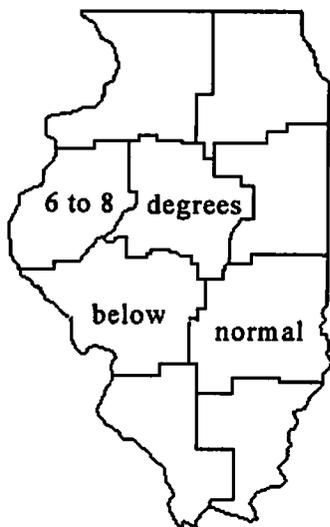
District	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Average	Normal	Departure	Total	Normal	Departure
	October 13 - 19					
Northwest	46.4	53.2	- 6.9	.52	.74	- .21
Northeast	46.7	53.4	- 6.8	.56	.76	- .20
West	48.8	55.8	- 7.0	.47	.67	- .20
Central	48.4	55.3	- 6.9	.56	.70	- .14
East	47.6	54.8	- 7.2	.52	.67	- .16
W Southwest	49.7	56.7	- 7.0	.58	.70	- .12
E Southeast	49.8	56.7	- 6.9	.65	.68	- .04
Southwest	50.8	58.2	- 7.3	.73	.73	.00
Southeast	51.4	58.4	- 7.0	.78	.75	.03
State	48.7	55.7	- 7.0	.59	.71	- .12

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

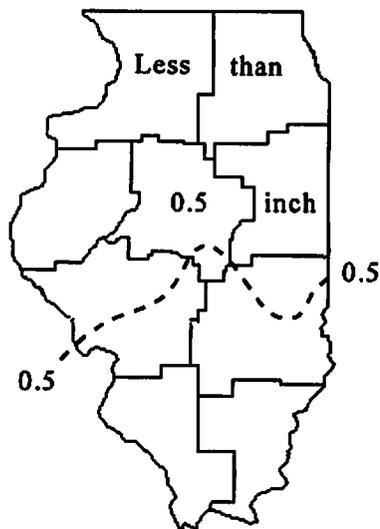
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Data and maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, Il. 61820, (217)244-8226.



Temperature Departure
October 13 - 19



Precipitation Total
October 13 - 19

Crop PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by local area officials of Farm Service Agency, Extension Service, National Resources Conservation Service, Farm Business Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.